

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 708 without my signature.

This bill is substantively similar to one I vetoed last year. It is unnecessary because it is redundant with current procedures already implemented by the California State University (CSU).

CSU employees are already protected from retaliation for disclosing improper activities under the California Whistleblower Protection Act. Furthermore, in 2002 the CSU Chancellor issued Executive Order 822, establishing procedures for responding to complaints filed by CSU employees or applicants. The complaint review process includes an investigation that may be conducted by an independent entity and an opportunity for the complainant to present evidence and witnesses in support of the complaint.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger